AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-81. (Cancelled)

Claim 82. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing an intervertebral disc implant, comprising:

obtaining nucleus pulposus tissue harvested from a donor; and

cross linking at least a portion of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue, wherein the nucleus pulposus tissue includes an extracellular matrix component harvested from the donor.

Claim 83. (Currently amended) The method of claim 82 wherein the donor of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue is ~~xenogeneic~~ xenogenic to a recipient of the intervertebral disc implant.

Claim 84. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising decellularizing at least a portion of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 85. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising denaturing at least a portion of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 85 wherein the denatured portion comprises proteins.

Claim 87. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising degrading at least a portion of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein the degraded portion comprises nucleic acids.

Claim 89. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising extracting at least a portion of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 90. (Previously presented) The method of claim 89 wherein the extracted portion comprises lipids.

Claim 91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 wherein obtaining comprises aseptic dissection of a donor intervertebral disc.

Claim 92. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 wherein the cross linked portion comprises at least one protein of the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92 wherein the cross linked portion comprises collagen.

Claim 94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 wherein the cross linking is photo mediated.

Claim 95. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 wherein cross linking comprises contacting at least a portion of the harvested nucleus pulposus with a photo active dye.

Claim 96. (Previously presented) The method of claim 95 wherein the photo active dye comprises methylene blue.

Claim 97. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising lyophilizing the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 98. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising pulverizing the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 99. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising sterilizing the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue.

Claim 100. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82 further comprising disposing the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue in an injection device.

Claim 101. (Previously presented) The method of claim 125 wherein the intervertebral disc regenerating material comprises at least one growth factor or at least one cell.

Claim 102. (Previously presented) The method of claim 101 wherein the at least one cell is obtained from a recipient of the intervertebral disc implant.

Claims 103-124. (Cancelled)

Claim 125. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, further comprising combining the harvested nucleus pulposus tissue with an intervertebral disc regenerating material.

Claim 126. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the extracellular matrix component comprises a proteoglycan.

Claim 127. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the extracellular matrix component comprises a protein.

Claim 128. (New) The method of claim 127, wherein the protein comprises collagen.